Attorney Docket No.: LEITZ/127/PC/US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of Jouko NIINIMÄKI

Int'l Application Serial No.: PCT/FI2003/000968

Int'l Filing Date: 17 December 2003 (17.12.2003)

For:

A Method for Optimizing the Debarking of Logs Debarked in a Debarking Drum

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Upon entry into the U.S. National Phase, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the specification:

Please replace the specification and claims for the above-identified patent application with the enclosed substitute specification submitted in accordance with 37 CFR §1.125(b). Also submitted herewith is a marked-up copy showing the matter being added (underlined) and the matter being deleted (strikethrough) from the specification of record as required by 37 CFR §1.125(b). The substitute specification includes an amended set of claims. The claims appearing in the substitute specification are in clean form. The marked-up specification clearly shows material being removed and added to the original claims as filed. The substitute specification contains no new matter.

REMARKS

Applicant has elected to submit a substitute specification as permitted by 37 CFR §1.125(b). Clean and marked-up copies of the specification are enclosed as required by §1.125(b). The substitute specification contains no new matter.